

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 8, 10, 16, 17 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as unpatentable over Tornberg in view of Loebach. Claims 4, 13 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as unpatentable over Tornberg in view of Loebach and further in view of Barber.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested based on the following comments.

35 U.S.C. 102 and 103 rejections

Claims 1, 3, 8, 10, 16, 17 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as unpatentable over Tornberg in view of Loebach. Claims 4, 13 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as unpatentable over Tornberg in view of Loebach and further in view of Barber.

Tornberg discloses a web fed printing machine in which two printed webs are superimposed before longitudinally folding the webs. Sheets which have been cut from a third web are sandwiched between the two superimposed webs before the folding process, using a special speed sheet accelerating mechanism.

Loebach teaches a folder collect cylinder 22 which is located within a folding apparatus and which collects intermediate products.

Claim 1 recites a method including:

cutting a first folio from a third web in the rotary press;

storing the first folio on a storage device;

transferring the first folio from the storage device to a position between the first and second webs; and

cutting a second folio from the third web;

the storing step including storing the second folio in a stacked relationship relative to the first folio on a precollect cylinder of the storage device;

the transferring step including simultaneously transferring the stacked first and second folios from the precollect cylinder to the position between the first and second webs.

The whole goal of Tornberg is to avoid collect cylinders using a special half-speed cut and acceleration mechanism with linearly moving chains 103, 104 and pins 116, 117 (See page 3, col. 1., for example). Tornberg also states: "In a collect operation, plates on diametrically opposed sides of the printing cylinders are different. Since the size of the product may vary from day to day, the necessity for changing the product size in four-page jumps is quite a serious handicap." Page 1, col. 1, lines 33 to 40. It further states: "According to the present invention, the odd sheet is completely cut from the half speed web and positively accelerated to full web speed." Page 1, col. 2, lines 35 to 39.

It is respectfully submitted that the acceleration mechanism of Tornberg would not have been modified by one of skill in the art to include a precollect cylinder, whether of Loebach or another, as the whole purpose of the acceleration mechanism for the half speed sheets is to avoid the disadvantages of precollect cylinders. See Tornberg at page 2, col. 2, line 57 et seq.

Tornberg thus actually teaches away from using precollect cylinders.

Moreover, Tornberg appears to require pasting of the accelerated sheet, which would not work with an inserted collected folio in a stacked relationship. See Tornberg at page 3, col. 2 line 29 et seq.

In addition, there appears to be no motivation to provide a stacked product to the Tornberg device.

Withdrawal of the rejection to claim 1 and its dependent claims thus is respectfully requested.

Claims 8 and 17 have been amended to recite limitations which also are not shown by either Tornberg or Loebach and withdrawal of the rejection to claims 8 and 17 and their remaining dependent claims is respectfully requested, as it is respectfully submitted that one of skill in the art would not have modified Tornberg to have a precollect cylinder, as Tornberg specifically desires not to have a precollect cylinder.

CONCLUSION

The present application is respectfully submitted as being in condition for allowance and applicants respectfully request such action.

Respectfully submitted,

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